

NEW FOREST
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

on

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions

of the

New Forest Rural District

for the Year 1948

Submitted to the Rural District Council

by

GEORGE HABGOOD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health to the New Forest Rural District Council.

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NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1948.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the sanitary condition of the New Forest Rural District for the year ending December 31st, 1948.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	94,957
Estimated Resident Population	41,200
Estimated number of inhabited houses (as at 1st April, 1948)	11,870
Rateable Value 1st April, 1948	£275,129
Sum represented by a penny rate (for the financial year ended March 31st, 1948)	£1088. 4. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING THE CHIEF INDUSTRIES CARRIED ON IN THE AREA.

The largest area of the district is the ancient Crown Forest. Forestry is therefore an important industry and represents in many direct and indirect ways the occupations of the inhabitants inside the waterside parishes. There are also a considerable number of smallholders having Forest Rights, who are engaged in calf-rearing and pig-keeping. The areas bordering the Forest on the North, East and South are, except actually on the waterside, agricultural, whilst the waterside portions of the parishes of Eling, Marchwood, Dibden and Fawley are principally industrial, which includes timber works, tar distilling, motor-boat works, flying-boat works, a large petroleum refinery and other light industries. These parishes are therefore mainly inhabited by industrial workers.

No occupation has had any adverse effect on public health so far as is known.

EXTRACTS OF VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births:				M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	391	354	745
Illegitimate	...	...	...	20	26	46
				<hr/> 411	<hr/> 380	<hr/> 791

Birth Rate: per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 19.19

Still Births:				M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	13	7	20
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births).....19.73

Birth Rate for England and Wales.....17.9

Deaths:				M.	F.	Total
				206	175	381

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 9.26

Death Rate for England and Wales.....10.8

Deaths from Puerperal causes:

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	2

Death Rate per 1,000 of live and still births.....2.46

Deaths.

				M.	F.	Total
Deaths of infants under one year of age				14	14	—
Legitimate	...	...	...	14	13	28
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	1	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births.....35.39

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...36.24

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 21.73

Death Rate for England and Wales.....34.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....55

Deaths from Whooping Cough.....2

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....2

Deaths from Cerebro Spinal Fever.....1

The chief causes of death were:

Heart diseases	...	...	...	...	...	115
Intra Cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	40
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	23
Congenital debility and premature births	...	...	...	...	...	20
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	7

No causes of sickness or invalidity have been specially noteworthy during the year; no conditions of occupation or environment appear to have had a prejudicial effect upon health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

- 1 Medical Officer of Health (part time).
- 1 Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 1 Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 2 Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

A moiety of the salaries of all Officers is received under the Public Health Acts and the Sanitary Officers devote the whole of their time to their duties.

Mr. G. H. C. Taylor, additional Sanitary Inspector resigned 1st April, 1948 and Mr. G. Topham, appointed vice Mr. Taylor 6th September, 1948.

Until the 5th July, when the National Health Service Act, 1946 came into force laboratory and ambulance facilities, Clinics and treatment centres, etc., were continued as in 1947.

Laboratory Facilities :

For chemical examinations at the County Council Laboratories, Winchester and bacteriological examinations at the Public Health Laboratories, Winchester and at Southampton.

A fee is charged by the County Council Laboratories. The Public Health Laboratories Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health and no fees are charged.

Ambulance Facilities :

The following facilities have been arranged by the local health authority:—

- (a) For infectious cases by arrangement with the B.R.C.S. Ambulance, stationed at Avenue Road, Brockenhurst.
- (b) For other cases, ambulances provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade at Totton and Fawley and the British Red Cross Society at Brockenhurst.

In addition to the foregoing there are ambulances stationed at Christchurch, New Milton, Lymington, Romsey and Ringwood all operating as part of the County Ambulance Service.

Nursing at Home :

No changes have occurred in the area for general nursing. A Domestic Home Help scheme administered by the Local Health Authority comes into operation in January, 1949.

Clinics and Treatment Centres :

These services are provided by the local health authority, the County Council:—

(a) Ante Natal Clinics :

Totton - Health Centre, Rumbridge Street—1st, 2nd and 3rd Monday at 2 p.m.

Lymington - Parish Hall—2nd and 4th Wednesday at 2 p.m.

(b) Speech Clinic :

Totton - Health Centre, Rumbridge Street, Thursdays at 9.30 and 1.30 (this clinic closed temporarily owing to lack of staff).

(c) Child Welfare Centres :

Boldre - Memorial Hall, Pilley.	2nd Thursday.
Bramshaw - Village Hall.	4th Wednesday.
Brockenhurst - Morant Hall.	1st & 3rd Tuesdays.
Copythorne - Foresters' Hall, Bartley.	1st & 3rd Thursdays.
Dibden Purlieu - Women's Institute.	2nd Tuesday.
East Boldre - Parish Hall	1st Thursday.
Exbury - Women's Institute.	2nd Thursday.
Fawley - Methodist Hall.	1st & 3rd Mondays.
Hythe - St. John's Hall.	4th Tuesday.
Lyndhurst - Church Hall.	1st & 3rd Wednesdays.
Marchwood - Church Hall.	1st & 3rd Tuesdays.
Minstead - The Hut.	2nd Wednesday.
Sway - Women's Institute.	2nd Tuesday.
Stoney Cross - The Gymnasium.	4th Thursday.
Totton - Health Centre, Rumbridge Street.	Every Friday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

(all centres commence at 2 p.m., except where otherwise stated).

(d) Day Nurseries. Nil.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

- I. **Dental Clinics** (for school and pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers).

Held at various schools and centres as required.
Requests for special appointments should be sent to the County Medical Officer.

- II. **Minor Ailments** (for school and pre-school children).

Totton - Health Centre, Rumbridge Street—every Tuesday at 9.30 a.m.

Lymington - Parish Hall—every Tuesday at 9.30 a.m.
(children can attend these clinics without appointments).

- III. **Ophthalmic** (for school and pre-school children).

Held at Totton and Lymington. Attendance only by appointment from the County Medical Officer.

- IV. **Orthopædic Clinics:**

Totton - Health Centre, Rumbridge Street.

Surgeon's Clinic - 3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m. odd months.

Remedial Clinic - Every Wednesday, 9.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

Cases from the New Forest Rural District are also dealt with at Lymington Remedial Clinic held at the Literary Institute on Fridays at 9.30 a.m.

- V. **Tuberculosis Clinics :**

Totton - Health Centre, Rumbridge Street—Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Christchurch- Health Centre, Millhams Street—Mondays 10 a.m.

- VI. **Maternity Accommodation :**

Maternity accommodation is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board and beds are provided at:—

Hythe Cottage Hospital, Hythe. Fenwick Cottage Hospital, Lyndhurst. Hill Rise Maternity Home, Lyndhurst.

Applications for the admission of normal cases for social reasons should be made to the County Medical Officer. Arrangements for the admission of abnormal cases and those requiring institutional confinement on account of other medical conditions, should be made by the general practitioner obstetrician direct with the Institution concerned.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

No. of samples of Water taken	Results of Exam.		Remedial Work Done			Remarks
	Fit	Unfit	Piped service installed	Wells improved and water made fit	Remain unfit	
54	28	26	32	1	9	Unfit wells are in hand.

During the year good progress has been maintained in regard to the preparation for extension of water mains in the parishes of Bramshaw, Minstead, Netley Marsh, Copythorne, Marchwood, Fawley, Dibden, Beaulieu, Rhinefield and Denny Lodge.

The Rhinefield extension, under guarantee agreement with the West Hampshire Water Co., was completed in June. The extension involved 1,330 yards of 4" and 14 yards of 3" main at a cost of £1,126. 9s. 3d. At the end of the year 10 of 19 properties for which the extension was made had been connected. These figures are not included in the table of remedial work done. As regards the remaining extensions the approval of the County Council has been received and the Southampton Corporation have agreed to carry them out on receiving the approval of the Ministry of Health. They are as follows, in order of priority:—

- I. Winsor Lane, Winsor.
 - II. Bartley.
 - III. Chapel Lane, Marchwood.
 - IV. Pound Lane, Colbury.
 - V. Blackhill Cross Roads to Ower; Ower to Tatchbury Lane and Silver Street to Ower.
 - VI. Copythorne School to Copythorne P.O.
 - VII. Deerleap Lane, Colbury.
 - VIII. Shornhill.
 - XI. Tavells Lane, Marchwood.
 - X. Copythorne, Money Hills and Barrow Hill.
- An extension at Rowdown, Fawley and Paulets Lane, Calmore has also been agreed.

The whole scheme for the Bramshaw and Minstead Water Supply submitted to the Ministry of Health at the latter end of 1947 has received their approval and it is gratifying to note that this most urgently needed scheme has now been given a starting date for June, 1949.

The district is supplied with water by two statutory undertakers - Southampton Corporation and the West Hampshire Water Co. The supply is constant and the quality satisfactory.

The water supply to the village of Emery Down is under the control of the Council. Water is purchased in bulk from the Southampton Corporation and boosted by two automatic electrically controlled pumps. This supply being electrically controlled is normally constant, but slight inconvenience was caused during the early part of the year due to cuts in electricity.

The quality is satisfactory and water consumed was 1,794,000 gallons.

The water supply to Stoney Cross and part of the village of Minstead is also controlled by the Council.

Water is purchased in bulk from the Southampton Corporation and boosted by means of an automatic electrically controlled Harland Multi Stage pump at Cadnam. 6,600,000 gallons were consumed during the year.

Generally it can be said that the water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

There are still a number of wells in use in those parishes where a main water supply is available.

Action in respect of any form of contamination :

For the year under review, it will be seen from the table that a total of 54 samples of water were taken from wells and other sources of supply of which 26 were found to be polluted. Every effort has been made to instal piped supplies in houses where a main supply is available.

As a result of action taken under the appropriate Acts a total of 32 properties were connected to a main supply.

Much difficulty has been experienced in providing houses with a piped service due to the shortage of galvanised tube and the fact that no priority is provided to acquire this tube, the production being restricted for use in new building.

To overcome this difficulty, the use of copper has been recommended and has resulted in more houses being provided with a main supply than would have otherwise been possible.

It has not been possible to give this important branch of public health all the attention one would have liked, due to the necessity for concentrating efforts on the Hobhouse Housing Survey.

**Percentage number of Dwelling Houses in the district
supplied from Public Water Mains.**

Parish	Main Supply	Per-centage of houses connect- ed to Mains	Per-centage of houses with wells or other means of supply	Remarks
Lyndhurst	Yes	99	1	—
Brockenhurst	Yes	98	2	—
Copythorne	Yes	59	41	Parts of this Parish lie outside the stat. limits of supply of Southampton Corp. The Council have approved extensions.
Sway	Yes	90	10	—
Fawley	Yes	84	16	Council have approved small extensions in areas not covered by existing mains.
East Boldre	Yes	50	50	—
Dibden	Yes	88	12	Council have approved extensions in areas not covered by existing mains
Marchwood	Yes	84	16	ditto
Netley Marsh	Yes	58	42	Council have approved extension in certain areas where there are no exist- ing mains.
Eling	Yes	99	1	—
Denny Lodge	Yes (parts only)	2	98	Council have approved extension in certain parts where there are no exist- ing mains.
Boldre	Yes	62	38	—
Minstead	Yes (parts only)	5	95	} Scheme for supplying these Parishes approved by Ministry of Health, starting date given, June, 1949.
Bramshaw	No	—	100	
Beaulieu	Private Estate Supply	—	—	Council have approved extensions of West Hants Water Mains to cover Parish.
Exbury	Private Estate Supply	—	—	—
Rhinefield	Yes	49	51	Extension at Wootton completed June.

These percentages do not include the hutments in military camps taken over by the Council for temporary housing purposes.

No waters are known to have any plumbo solvent action and there are no known cases of plumbism.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Council have again actively pursued the provision of main drainage schemes and the extension of existing sewers in the parishes of Eling, Brockenhurst, Boldre, E. Boldre, Dibden, Fawley and Netley Marsh.

Whilst no extensions or schemes have been commenced during the year it can be said that the ground work has been completed and the forthcoming year should result in some schemes commencing.

A report on the existing drainage arrangements of the Potensford area of Woodlands was submitted to the Public Health Committee with a recommendation that the conditions are such that a scheme for sewerage the area is urgently required.

The report was approved, a scheme prepared and submitted to the Minister.

The parishes of Eling, Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst are provided with main drainage. In other parishes where main drainage is provided for Council Housing Estates, the Council have permitted a number of privately owned houses to connect up to the sewers where it is practicable.

The connection of properties to the public sewers and conversion from conservancy to water carriage has again received considerable attention.

Bearing in mind existing high costs, and the shortage of material for work other than new housing, it can be said that steady progress in this direction is maintained.

As a result of informal and formal action 53 properties were converted from conservancy to water carriage, including the construction of 31 compartments and the drains connected to a public sewer.

Defective and insufficient drainage systems and defective sanitary accommodation have also received a great deal of attention and the following work completed:—

a.	Defective cesspits filled in and drainage systems laid down and connected to public sewer	...	18
b.	Defective drains repaired	... ..	35
c.	Defective sanitary accommodation renewed	...	33
d.	Overflowing cesspits dealt with	... ..	47
e.	Sinks and sink waste drainage provided	...	42
f.	Water service installed to existing water closets		7
g.	Improvements and modifications of small sewage disposal plants	... ..	9

ANALYSIS OF CONNECTIONS TO PUBLIC SEWERS :

1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
23	63	66	73	78

These figures do not include the new houses erected during the year by the Council and private enterprise, of which the following were connected to the public sewers:—

Parish of Eling	...	...	...	...	143
Parish of Brockenhurst	...	...	...	...	18
Parish of Lyndhurst	...	...	...	...	12

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The pollution of rivers and streams has been given attention. A number of cases were found where streams were polluted by sewage. The necessary action was taken with the persons responsible. Choked streams have also been dealt with.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

An organised scheme for the collection of house and trade refuse is in operation for the whole of the rural district. House refuse is collected fortnightly and trade refuse weekly, with the Council's own plant and staff under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Disposal of all refuse is by controlled tipping at sites situate at Marchwood, Holbury, Norley Wood and Stoney Cross.

Five, ten cubic yard, Dennis side-loading vehicles and 20 personnel are employed in carrying out the service.

During the year a total of 54,992 miles were covered and approximately 9,166 tons of refuse collected and disposed of. With the steady increase in new building, the increasing population, the reduction in the working week and an increase in the annual holidays for collecting staff, the employment of labour and acquisition of vehicles must inevitably be increased to keep in step with the development and whilst every effort is made to provide a service commensurate with considerations of hygiene, public health and finance, the cost of this branch of public health will increase steadily.

Litter Baskets :

Litter baskets are provided by the Council at Calshot Beach and other areas popular with holidaymakers and trip-

pers and also at bus stops and other places where they are required to prevent litter. The contents are collected and disposed of as required by the refuse collecting staff.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SALVAGE.

Salvage is collected from private dwellings at the same time as refuse.

Collection from shops and industrial premises - weekly.

All salvage is collected by the refuse collecting staff, no separate organisation to deal with this work is engaged.

The total amount of salvage collected and disposed of shows an increase of 51 tons and increase in revenue of £363 over 1947.

Salvage Collected and Disposed, etc.

Articles	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper & Cardboard	176	13	3	7	1,104	1	7
Textiles	8	18	1	21	208	14	7
Bones	—	19	—	—	4	19	9
Bottles, Jars, etc. ...	10	8	—	—	130	8	0
Miscellaneous... ..	4	13	2	26	16	3	9
Totals	201	12	3	26	1,464	7	8
Board of Trade Allowance for increased paper collection over 1947					52	10	6
Total Income					£1,516	18	2

CESSPIT EMPTYING.

The Council undertakes the cleansing of cesspits free of direct charge at intervals of approximately, but not less than six months, by contract with the Hampshire Cleansing Co.

Emptying of cesspits on Council Housing Estates is carried out by the Council's own plant and staff under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor.

HOUSING.

Our energies have again perforce, been directed to obtaining the maximum degree of protection and comfort for the greatest number of people, as dictated by the limited resources of materials available for the repair and maintenance of existing houses.

Work in regard to bringing up to standard and the demolition of "unfit houses" is still at a standstill and it appears that before any material action of this nature can be undertaken, the rate of new building must be stepped up very boldly. At the present rate of progress it is not unreasonable to suppose that a number of years will elapse before any action can be contemplated. This is borne out by the fact that at the end of 1947 there were 977 applications for Council Houses, which I am informed, that, when preened the actual live applications were much below this figure, but at the end of 1948 there were still 942 live applications for housing accommodation. At the end of 1947 - 195 temporary and permanent houses were completed and during 1948 - 139.

It will be seen therefore that the number of live applications remain static with the present rate of construction with a tendency to increase, and of course there is in addition the number of houses found to be unfit as revealed by the Hobhouse Survey (see page 22) to be taken into consideration.

The housing problem is still very far indeed from being solved and cases of overcrowding and unhealthy home conditions continue to give cause for much concern and will continue to do so for some considerable time, at the present rate of building.

This social problem is of the first magnitude, having its repercussions in many directions of national life and so long as it continues unchecked there is an inevitable danger that these conditions will deteriorate to a very low level.

Every effort has been made to deal satisfactorily with all complaints so far as practicable.

In dealing with housing repairs we are not only faced with the difficulty in acquiring materials but in getting the work carried out due to the high cost of repairs having to be met out of prewar rents.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses, etc. (other than Hobhouse Survey).

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected	...	123
(b) Number of inspections and visits made in connection therewith	... ..	435

2. Summary of defects remedied during the year:—

(a) Defective roofs repaired	... ..	39
(b) Defective floors taken up and renewed	...	23
(c) Dampness abated	... ..	26
(d) Other major items of disrepair	... ..	54

a. **Number of Council Houses erected during the year.**

	Traditional.	Permanent-non-traditional.
Parish of Eling.		
Calmore Road, Totton	58	9
Parishes of Boldre and E. Boldre.		
Burnt House Lane, Pilley	—	4
Chapel Lane, East Boldre	—	8
Parish of Brockenhurst.		
Brookley Road, Brockenhurst	—	10
Parish of Copythorne.		
Shepherd's Lane, Bartley	—	2
Parish of Fawley.		
Blackfield Road, Fawley	—	14
Parish of Lyndhurst.		
Swan Green, Lyndhurst	4	6
Parish of Marchwood.		
Marchwood Crescent		
Marchwood	12	—
	—	—
Totals	74	53
	—	—
Grand Total: 127.		

b. **Number of Houses erected by Private enterprise.**

Fawley	...	...	...	...	...	3
Eling	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sway	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brockenhurst	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dibden	...	...	...	...	...	1
Netley Marsh	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/> 12

Total number of houses erected during year: 139

Particulars of Houses owned by the Local Authority.

Eling	...	...	...	...	...	237
Brockenhurst	...	...	...	...	...	52
Marchwood	...	...	...	...	...	45
East Boldre	...	...	...	...	...	30
Boldre	...	...	...	...	...	40
Copythorne	...	...	...	...	...	30
Dibden	...	...	...	...	...	32
Sway	...	...	...	...	...	14
Fawley	...	...	...	...	...	36
Netley Marsh	...	...	...	...	...	8
Lyndhurst	...	...	...	...	...	10
						<hr/>
					Total	534

Number of Families in Huttred Accommodation.

Beaulieu Aerodrome, Site No. 4 ...	...	33 families
Beaulieu Aerodrome, Site No. 6 ...	...	24 „
Hounsdown Camp ...	...	28 „
Lime Kiln Lane Camp, Fawley ...	...	25 „
Stoney Cross Aerodrome ...	...	137 „
Veals Farm Camp, Marchwood ...	...	14 „
Yew Tree Camp, Beaulieu Heath...	...	23 „
Total		284 „

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION - GYPSIES.

Since 1946 the subject of the abolishment of gypsy encampments and the rehousing, education and upgrading of the gypsies in the district has been actively pursued by the Council.

In this direction the Council during the year under review converted 23 Nissen huts at the Stoney Cross Aerodrome as temporary housing accommodation for families from the gypsy encampments within their district.

During the year a total of 20 families from various encampments were offered this accommodation, but only 2 families accepted.

The accommodation is vastly superior to the conditions existing at the encampments.

The rent charged is 7/6 per week inclusive of General and Water Rates.

As the gypsies would not accept the accommodation, they have been let to other families on the Council's waiting list for Council houses.

There are a number of sub standard families, mainly of gypsy stock from caravan sites and overcrowded houses who have accepted tenancies of hutted accommodation under the control of the Council, and these are distributed in the various camps as follows:—

Stoney Cross Aerodrome ...	...	13 families
Lime Kiln Lane Camp, Fawley ...	...	6 „
Yew Tree Camp, Beaulieu Heath...	...	4 „
Beaulieu Aerodrome ...	...	3 „
Veals Farm Camp, Marchwood ...	...	2 „
Hounsdown Camp ...	...	2 „
		30

Total estimated Gypsy Population is 256 (64 families).

MILK, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The number of registered dairy farms is now 389; this is an increase of 10 over the number registered in 1947.

The number of retailers in the district who are not producers, is 16. 52 farms are producing "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 39, "Accredited Milk", which shows an increase of 12 "T.T." licences and a decrease of 2 "Accredited" licences. Although the increase of T.T. producers is an improvement on last year it is still very disappointing and it is to be hoped that greater success will be attained in the future.

The County Council is the licencing Authority for "Special Designated" milk, whilst Supplementary and Dealers licences are issued by the District Council. During the year the following licences were issued:—

- 1 Dealers licence for Pasteurised Milk.
- 1 Supplementary licence to retail "T.T." (certified) Milk.
- 1 Supplementary licence to retail "T.T." Milk.
- 1 Supplementary licence to retail Pasteurised Milk.

Two samples of Pasteurised milk and one sample of T.T. milk were taken in the course of delivery, the results all complied with the regulations.

It has been observed that there is a growing tendency amongst certain producers to ignore the essential and elementary rules of clean milk production. The excuse usually put forward is: Lack of labour, coupled with the assertion that the country is short of milk and that any old milk is better than no milk - and in any case it is collected and pasteurised, so what does it matter ?

Without entering into an argument on the delicate and important subject of heat treated milk, I find that too many farmers are hiding behind this word "pasteurised". It is of no consequence whether the milk is heat treated, pasteurised, or just served up as it comes, from the cow, there is no excuse for the production of dirty milk.

Everyone engaged in any way, in the production of milk has a duty, to see that it leaves the farm, in as clean and safe a condition as it is possible to make it.

131 inspections were made during the year and the following work completed:—

Construction of new cowsheds	...	...	...	2
Reconstruction and modernisation of existing cowsheds	...	...	...	5
Construction of new dairies	...	...	...	3
New cowshed floors	...	...	...	4

New drainage systems provided ...	...	...	2
Improved lighting and ventilation	...	...	2
Limewashing carried out on instructions	...	...	3
Other unclean conditions remedied	...	...	24
Main Water laid on	...	...	1
New Wells provided	...	...	1

I must again repeat that this important branch of public health has not received the attention it demands, owing to the need for concentrating on the Hobhouse Survey and Inspectoral staff being short of complement.

RURAL HOUSING.

Ministry of Health Circular, 64/44.

In connection with the survey of working class dwellings called for by the Ministry of Health under Circular 64/44 and recommended in the Hobhouse Report - 1767 premises were inspected during the year, giving a total of 6,975 since the beginning of the Survey in May, 1945.

The survey again suffered through lack of staff; an Inspector resigned during the early part of the year and was not replaced until September. The remaining members of the staff could not cope with the general work of the department and also spend the required time on the survey. A lay inspector was appointed in November in an effort to speed up the work.

The 6,975 houses surveyed are categorised and grouped as follows:—

Parish of Beaulieu :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	1	7	50	—	19	77
	C	4	2	26	—	3	35
Total		5	9	76	—	22	112

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 19.6

Parish of Boldre :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	26	39	38	—	10	113
	C	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total		26	39	38	—	11	114

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 9.6

Parish of Bramshaw :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	7	67	5	19	98
	C	—	2	21	—	5	28
Total		—	9	88	5	24	126

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 19.04

Parish of Brockenhurst :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	6	144	142	2	26	320
	B	1	13	19	5	8	46
	C	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total		7	157	161	7	35	367

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 9.5

Parish of Copythorne :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	23	152	239	5	74	493
	C	—	—	5	—	1	6
Total		23	152	244	5	75	499

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 15.03

Parish of Denny Lodge :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	1	3	—	1	5
	C	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total		—	1	3	—	3	7

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 42.9

Parish of Dibden :

Category	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group A	—	—	—	—	—	—
B	39	158	300	2	68	567
C	—	5	5	—	2	12
Total	39	163	305	2	70	579

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 12.09

Parish of East Boldre :

Category	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group A	—	—	—	—	—	—
B	2	20	75	—	40	137
C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	20	75	—	40	137

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 29.19

Parish of Eling :

Category	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group A	247	2119	203	14	43	2626
B	20	133	16	2	2	173
C	—	1	2	—	3	6
Total	267	2253	221	16	48	2805

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 1.71

Parish of Fawley :

Category	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group A	—	—	—	—	—	—
B	212	366	316	7	119	1020
C	—	7	25	4	18	54
Total	212	373	341	11	137	1074

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 12.75

Parish of Lyndhurst :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	7	10	74	—	7	98
	B	—	2	19	—	—	21
	C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		7	12	93	—	7	119

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 5.8

Parish of Marchwood :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	2	39	85	—	55	181
	C	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total		2	39	85	—	56	182

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 30.7

Parish of Minstead :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	—	19	2	2	23
	C	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total		—	—	19	2	3	24

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 12.5

Parish of Netley Marsh :

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	4	—	—	—	—	4
	B	17	125	189	2	38	371
	C	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total		21	125	189	2	40	377

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 10.6

Parish of Sway :

Category	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group A	—	—	—	—	—	—
B	62	153	158	19	61	453
C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	62	153	158	19	61	453

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 13.5

Total number of Category 5 houses as percentage of Total number inspected - 9.07.

It will be seen that as the survey proceeds the number of houses found to be unfit increase.

Summary of Inspections made during year.

Nature of Inspections	No. made
Infectious Diseases	87
Nuisances	592
Water Supply	235
Housing	2386
Retail Meat and Food Shops	126
Milk and Dairies	131
Food Preparing Premises	77
Milk Samples	5
Factories and Workshops	41
Refuse Collection and Disposal	123
Verminous Premises	10
Schools	8
Moveable Dwellings and Camp Sites	48
Smoke Abatement	3
Rats and Mice	2055
Miscellaneous Inspections and Visits	93
Total ...	6,020

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Action has been taken for the eradication of bed bugs and fleas. 3 Council houses and 8 private dwellings were involved.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned baths or pools open to the public in this district.

NUISANCES.

(a) Smoke Abatement :

23 smoke observations were made during the year in the parish of Eling. No statutory action was taken. In one undertaking liquid pitch is used as fuel. This fuel if not properly burned emits a very heavy dense smoke. As a result of interviews with the management during 1947 and acting

upon the advice of Dr. E. J. Mahler of the Ministry of Health who visits the works periodically with your Senior Sanitary Inspector, very material improvement resulted and is being maintained.

(b) **Tar Macadam Plant - Emission of Dust :**

Since the installation of screening and dust arrestment plant, a water spray cyclone plant has been provided for the drier exhaust gases. There have been no complaints since this plant has been in operation and apart from any defect in machinery this nuisance should be abated. Dr. E. J. Mahler is of the opinion that the best practical means have now been adopted.

(c) **Tar Distillery :**

Periodical visits are made to these works with Dr. Mahler. It is anticipated that during 1949 the proposed new fractionating plant will be completed, which will have the effect of further reducing the emission of obnoxious smells.

There has been an appreciable improvement in the reduction of obnoxious smells from the works during the year.

SCHOOLS.

A number of schools were inspected during the year.

At Brockenhurst, Emery Down, Lyndhurst and Totton the school premises are connected to the main drainage. Exbury, Hardley, Colbury, and South Baddesley schools have water carriage systems connected to their own disposal plants. In the remaining parishes where sewers are not available, earth closets are provided.

Representations have been made to the County Education Authority regarding the desirability of converting from conservancy to water carriage, schools provided with earth closets.

A number of defects found were reported to the County Education Authority and the necessary work was carried out.

A number of schools in the district require modernising.

With the exception of Bramshaw and Minstead which rely upon wells, (no main supply available) the schools have a piped water supply.

It was not found necessary to close any school by reason of infectious disease.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

During the year 48 inspections of camping sites and moveable dwellings were made.

7 camping sites and 15 moveable dwelling licences were renewed and 3 new licences granted for moveable dwellings.

The camping sites, on the whole, were fairly well conducted and fully occupied.

A number of undesirable erections took place on most of the sites during hostilities.

With the co-operation of the Planning Officer, action is being taken to secure their removal.

This is not an easy matter in view of the huts being occupied permanently due to the shortage of housing accommodation.

Until the time when sufficient houses are available a degree of relaxation is quite inevitable and the removal of these undesirable structures with its consequent abatement of overcrowding and other unhealthy conditions must be in the nature of a long term policy.

FACTORIES.

Premises	No. in Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	115	30	7	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	38	27	2	—
Total	153	57	9	—

Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of Defects				Defects entailing Prosecution
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	1	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Lack of wholesome water supply	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	6	6	1	—	—

8 Outworkers were employed in the district during the year.

MEAT, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, FOOD SHOPS, ETC.

Number of inspections.....201

There are 12 registered and 5 licensed slaughter houses in the district, all of which have been closed under Defence Regulations. The Ministry of Food have not used any for centralised slaughtering.

The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption:—

42 lbs Sausage Meat	...	Decomposed.
859½ lbs Imported Beef	...	Bone Taint.
65 lbs English Beef	...	Tuberculosis.
363 lbs English Beef	...	Bone Taint and Bruising.
131 Tins Corned Beef	...	Decomposed.
1 Pig	...	Tuberculosis - generalised.
1 Sheep	...	Decomposition.
80 lbs Whalemeat	...	Decomposition.
306 lbs Bacon	...	Damaged by fire (unsaleable).
48 lbs Cheese	...	" " " "
28 lbs Margarine	...	" " " "
18 lbs Butter	...	" " " "
14 lbs Tea	...	" " " "
38 Tins Meat Roll	...	" " " "
11 „ Pork & Ham	...	" " " "
24 „ Soup	...	" " " "
21 „ Fruit & Vegetables	...	" " " "
40 lbs Biscuits	...	" " " "
9½ lbs Macaroni	...	" " " "
46 Pkts. Corn & Wheat Flakes	...	" " " "
24 lbs Flour	...	" " " "
20 lbs Oats	...	" " " "
19 Pkts. Dried Egg	...	" " " "
2 lbs Cocoa	...	" " " "
24 Tins Salmon	...	Decomposed.
13 Tins Fruit Salad	...	"
13 Tins Pilchards	...	"
12 Tins Corned Mutton	...	"
14 Tins Beans	...	"
45 Pkts. Barley	...	Mould and Mites.
36 Sponge Rolls	...	Contaminated in transit.
140 Tins Evaporated and Condensed Milk	...	Decomposed.
88 lbs Fish	...	"
49 Pkts. Custard Powder	...	Contaminated in transit.
166 lbs Venison	...	Putrefaction.
76 Tins Miscellaneous	...	Decomposed.

Condemned foods other than those required to be returned to the Wholesalers, were collected and disposed of for animal feeding.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

No statutory action was taken against any of the food premises in the district. Those that needed correction, carried out the Department's requirements in a satisfactory manner. There has been an improvement in the supply of towels, but detergents are still in short supply. A constant supply of hot water is making its appearance in an ever increasing number of premises, it is now necessary for the responsible persons to see that it is used.

Work carried out during the year includes the cleansing and redecorating of walls and ceilings, cleaning of floors, shelves, cupboards, cookers, etc., provision of covered food containers, new sinks, extra sanitary accommodation and rat proofing of food stores.

I am still of the opinion that all premises used for the manufacture, sale of, storage of any kind of food, should be registered by the Local Authority. The local Food Office have been of great help in this direction; when application for Licences have been received by them, the Health Department has been asked for a report on the suitability of the premises, and if unsuitable, the licence withheld until a favourable report was received.

Any work required has been readily and eagerly done under this system.

Ice Cream :

There are 26 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream 4 registered for sale and manufacture.

18 samples were taken, the results were as follows:—

Grade I	...	...	4
Grade II	...	...	6
Grade III	...	...	4
Grade IV	...	...	4

The methylene blue reduction test, as recommended by the Ministry of Health, was used in all cases.

There were no outstanding delinquents, the majority of the dealers appeared to be most anxious to sell a clean article, but a few new entrants to the trade required to be impressed with the fact that only the highest degree of cleanliness would be tolerated. Most of the Ice Cream retailed in the district is pre-packed and manufactured by reputable firms. I hope the time will shortly arrive when all Ice Cream is pre-packed, passing direct from machine to consumer without being

touched by dirty servers, soiled counter tops and unclean hands, and without being exposed to the dust and filth of numerous streets and establishments.

Licensed Premises :

Licensed premises in the area appear to have been well kept. Periodical inspections have again been made. Those houses situated in the more remote part of the district where main water is not available, are greatly handicapped.

Improvements have been planned for a number of establishments and the work will commence when material and labour are available.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

Previously under the direction of the Ministry of Food, Rodent Control is now directed by the Ministry of Agricultural and Fisheries.

A Staff of a Rodent Officer and one operative are engaged for the disinfection of all property and land, other than Agricultural which is administered by the Hampshire Agricultural Executive Committee, Winchester. All cases involving agricultural holdings are brought to the notice of their Pests Officer.

It has not been possible to continue the "Block Control" scheme as the number of complaints received each week from different areas and the amount of work arising therefrom has kept the staff of two fully occupied in dealing with these infestations.

Private property continues to be treated free and in respect of business establishments the introduction of basing the charge for service on the Rateable Value has been most satisfactory.

Many "Major" infestations have been reported and found in areas adjacent to the complainant's property, the majority of which are discovered in overgrown banks and ditches. Periodical re-inspections are carried out and re-serviced where necessary.

In compliance with the Ministry's instructions a 10% test baiting of the Public sewers in the parishes of Eling, Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst were carried out and found to be free of infestation.

Refuse Disposal Sites, Sewage Disposal Works and other Council owned property have been inspected and serviced. Business premises of all trades have received treatment and the number of cases of re-infestation within 6 months has been small.

During the year 206 complaints were received and 508 premises found infested and treated.

The total results obtained were as follows:—

No. of Premises Treated	No. of Dead Recovered		Approximate Kill	
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
508	501	207	5696	3689

THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Cases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year:—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	235	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	89	—	2
Scarlet Fever	15	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	2	2	1
Pneumonia	5	—	13
Erysipelas	4	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—
Totals ...	355	5	16

Measles became epidemic towards the end of the year, the earliest cases being in August.

Whooping in small numbers occurred throughout the year. Two deaths were attributed to Whooping Cough, one a child 20 months old that had a severe congenital heart defect and in another a child of 5 months who developed Pneumonia.

No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year. Two cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever - one a man of 65 years who died; the other a child of 18 months.

The Registrar General estimated that the population has increased by 1,130.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Progress in the treatment of children under 15 years of age has been maintained and appears to be working satisfactorily. It will be seen that no case of Diphtheria had been notified during the year.

STATISTICAL DETAILS.

Number of children at 31st December, 1948 who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1934).

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total Under 15
Age at 31/12/48 i.e. born in year	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939- 1943	1934- 1938	
N'ber Immunised	188	709	550	478	470	2,232	2,149	6,676

Estimated mid-year Child population 1948:	Children under 5: 3,450.	Children 5-14: 5,720.
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Percentage of children immunised under five - 69.3%.
 Percentage of children immunised five to fifteen - 76.5%.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	6	6	1	—	2	—	—	—
25	...	...	3	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
35	...	...	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
45	...	...	6	2	1	—	2	—	—	—
55	...	...	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
65	and	upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...		20	10	6	—	10	3	—	—

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. HABGOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

